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Performance and Registration Information Systems Management

September 2001

In July, meetings were held in Sioux Falls and Rapid City to discuss PRISM (Performance and Registration Information Systems Management) and its impact on motor carriers licensed in South Dakota. PRISM's purpose is to improve the safety of highrisk motor carriers. The International Registration Plan (IRP) provides the framework for the PRISM Program, which makes safety fitness a requirement to obtain and keep an IRP plate. PRISM links safety information with the IRP licensing process using the carrier's USDOT number. Through the Safety Status Measurement System (SafeStat), which utilizes data from inspections, accident reports, citations, and compliance reviews, carriers receive a rating based on their safety performance. When a carrier's safety performance falls below a designated level, the carrier is enrolled in the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Process (MCSIP) so the carrier's progress in improving safety can be monitored.

Over the past few years, we have been collecting the USDOT number of the registrant (entity to whom the IRP account is issued to), as well as the USDOT number at the vehicle level on all power units registered under the IRP. The USDOT number reported at the vehicle level must be the USDOT number of the motor carrier responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle during the registration year. The USDOT number of the registrant and the USDOT number at the vehicle level are not always the same. As you review the enclosed 2002 renewal document, please verify that the USDOT numbers reported to us are correct. Incorrect information could result in the wrong carrier being flagged when safety violations occur.

# **LEASES**

When a lease is involved, the registrants' USDOT number may be the number reported at the vehicle level, even if a different motor carrier is responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle. This occurs when the registrant trip leases the vehicle and the entity responsible for the safety of the vehicle changes frequently throughout the registration year. In this case, the registrants' USDOT number should be reported. Please review the scenarios in this notice which better explain the process.

A new field has been added to the IRP application and the 2002 renewal application. This field is identified as the "Leased Vehicle" field. If the vehicle being registered is leased and the lease will change during the registration year, a Y for Yes should be indicated. If the vehicle is being leased and the lease will NOT change during the registration year, a N for No should be indicated. If no lease exists, a N for No should be indicated. Any power unit being registered will need to have either the Yes or No box marked on each vehicle. Failure to properly complete this information will result in the application not being processed.

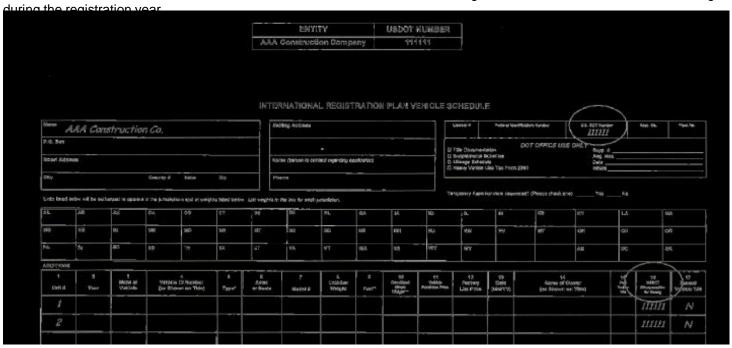
### **USDOT NUMBER/MCS-150**

Effective with the 2002 license year, the MCS-150 form will be required to be submitted with your renewal. Included with your 2002 renewal will be MCS-150 forms with the USDOT number pre-printed on them. If you have multiple USDOT numbers reported on your fleet, you will receive a MCS-150 form for each number and each form will need to be completed. You will no longer have to file the MCS-150 form every two years with Federal Highway; the annual filing of this form with our office will replace the current biannual filing. If you've recently submitted an updated MCS-150 form to Federal Highway, a copy of the form may be submitted with your renewal rather than re-completing the blank form that is included with your renewal. In the future, we hope to provide you with the ability to update the information on the MCS-150.

For a better understanding on who's USDOT number is reported under different circumstances, please review the scenarios listed and refer to the sample applications when reviewing these scenarios. When we refer to the Registrant's USDOT number, this is the number that is reflected on the Fleet Mileage Schedule.

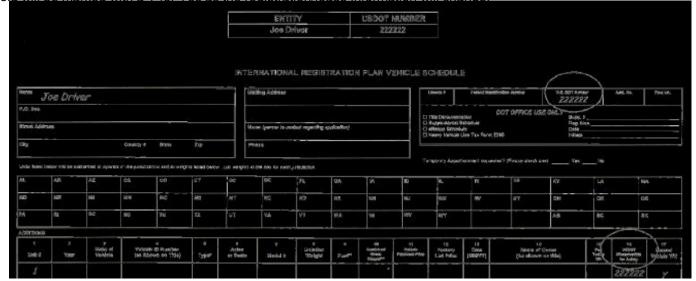
#### Scenario #1

AAA Construction Company maintains an IRP account. AAA Construction Company registers all of its trucks and doesn't lease any equipment. The company's USDOT number is 111111; this number is reported for the Registrant as the IRP account is in AAA Construction Company's name. Since there's no lease, AAA Construction Company is the motor carrier responsible for the safety of the vehicles on this fleet. Therefore, their USDOT number (111111) is also reported on both units 1 & 2. The Leased Vehicle field will be marked with an N for No, as the registration/lease information will not change



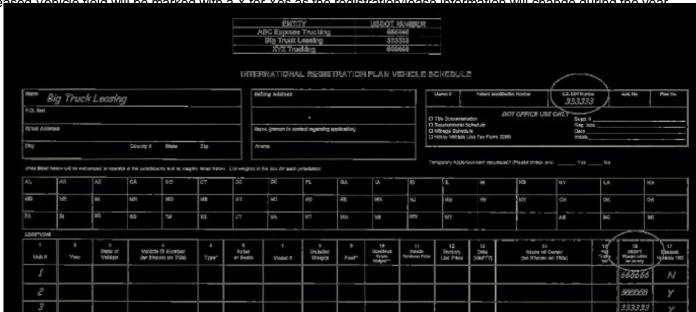
### Scenario #2

Mr. Joe Driver maintains an IRP account. Joe is an owner operator who registers his own truck, and continually trip leases to different motor carriers throughout the registration year. He has no idea to whom he will be leased from day to day. Joe's USDOT number is 222222; this number is reported for the Registrant as the IRP account is in Joe Driver's name. As Joe continually trip leases his vehicle and doesn't know from day to day who'll be responsible for the safety on the vehicle, his USDOT number (222222) will be used as the default motor carrier at the vehicle level and the Leased Vehicle field will be marked with a Y for Yes as the registration/lease information will change.



## Scenario #3

Big Truck Leasing Company maintains an IRP Account and registers three trucks. Truck #1 is long-term leased to XYZ Trucking, and truck #2 is long-term leased to ABC Express Trucking (whose lease will expire in six months). Truck #3 is continually trip leased to various customers throughout the registration year. Big Truck Leasing Company's USDOT number is 333333; this number is reported for the Registrant as the IRP account is in Big Truck Leasing Company's name. As truck #1 is long-term leased to XYZ Trucking, their US DOT number of 6666666 will be used as they are the motor carrier responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle. The Leased Vehicle field will be marked with an N for No as the registration/lease information will not change during the registration year. Truck #2 will use ABC Express Trucking's USDOT number as they are the motor carrier responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle. However, the Leased Vehicle field will be marked with a Y for Yes as the registration/lease information will change during the registration year because the lease with ABC Express is only for 6 months. Truck #3 will show Big Truck Leasing's USDOT number as they are the default motor carrier since the lease information will continually change throughout the registration year. The



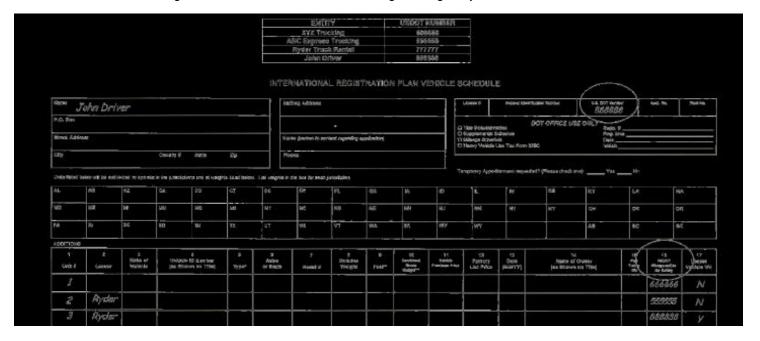
### Scenario #4

John Smith maintains an IRP account and registers three trucks. Trucks #1 and #2 are long-term leased to ABC Express Trucking, and truck #3 is operated under John's own authority. His USDOT number is 4444444; this number is reported for the Registrant as the IRP account is in John Smith's name. On trucks #1 and #2, ABC Express Trucking's USDOT number is used as they are the motor carrier responsible for the safe operation of these two vehicles. The Leased Vehicle field is marked with an N for No as the registration/lease information will not change during the registration year. Truck #3 will use John's USDOT number as there is no lease, and the Leased Vehicle field will be marked with an N for No as the registration/lease information will not change during the registration year.

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### Scenario #5

John Driver maintains an IRP account and is an owner-operator who registers three trucks. He owns truck #1 and trucks #2 and #3 he leases from Ryder. Truck #1 is long-term leased to XYZ Trucking, truck #2 is long-term leased to ABC Express Trucking, and truck #3 is trip leased. John's USDOT number is 888888; this number is reported for the Registrant as the IRP account is in John Driver's name. On truck #1, XYZ Trucking's USDOT number will be used, as they are the motor carrier responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle under the lease. The Leased Vehicle field will be marked with an N for No as the registration/lease information will not change during the registration year. Truck #2 will reflect ABC Express Trucking's USDOT number for the same reason as truck #1 and the Leased Vehicle field will be marked with an N for No for the same reason. Truck #3 is being trip leased, so the US DOT number reported will be John Driver's as he is the default motor carrier since the responsible motor carrier will constantly change. The Lease Vehicle field will be marked with a Y for Yes as the registration/lease information will change during the year.



For questions regarding the PRISM Program, please contact the Prorate Office at (605) 773-4111.